

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 02167 111620Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
PC-10 A-01 AID-05 CCO-00 DHA-02 OC-06 OMB-01 OPR-02
SCS-03 MCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 FS-01
ACDA-07 MC-02 /119 W

-----111636Z 126782 /46

O 111545Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2234

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASH DC IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4-7 IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

DIA WASH DC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASH DC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 2167

DEPT PLEASE PASS PEACE CORP WASH DC

USIA FOR IOP, IAA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, PINS, CG, AO, AEMR

SUBJECT: ANGOLAN ATTACK ON ZAIRE: FAZA STATUS AS OF 1000Z 11 MAR 77

GENERAL:

1. DEPLOYMENT UNDERWAY OF FIVE MACCHI AND FIVE MIRAGE TO KAMINA.
PLANS ARE FOR ANY STRIKE MISSIONS TO BE FLOWN FROM THERE.

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MAINTENANCE SUPPORT WILL BE PROVIDED BY AIR FROM KINSHASA.

2. THREE C-130'S AIRLIFTING 1500 TROOPS FROM KINSHASA -- 300 OUT
SO FAR. PLAN IS 500 TROOPS TO KAMINA, 500 TO KOLWEZI, AND 500 TO
LUBUMBASHI. CAPTAIN-GENERAL BUMBA ON FIRST AIRCRAFT, SCHEDULED TO
LAND AT KOLWEZI BUT LANDED AT LUBUMBASHI DUE TO BAD WEATHER
AT KOLWEZI. TWO BUFFALOS ARE DEPLOYED TO LUBUMBASHI.

3. SCENE AT N'DJILI BUSY BUT TYPICAL OF A LARGE DEPLOYMENT OPERATION. TROOPS ORGANIZED (WERE ARRIVING ON TRUCKS SINGING SONGS). APPEAR WELL-EQUIPPED. M-16 AND FAL 7.62 INDIVID WEAPONS, TWO 106RR'S OBSERVED WITH ANTI-TANK AMMO. A NUMBER OF CRATES WITH CHINESE MARKINGS OBSERVED: DO NOT THINK THEY CONTAINED WEAPONS OR AMMO, BUT PERHAPS TENTS OR CLOTHING. TOURED THE RAMP WITH COLONEL KIKUNDA. HE OBSERVED TWO ZAIRIAN AF TYPES IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES AND HAD THEM ARRESTED FOR BEING OUT OF UNIFORM. WHILE TALKING WITH HIM IN THE OPERATIONS CENTER HE WAS CALLED FOUR TIMES BY THE PRESIDENT, WHO REQUESTED DETAILED INFORMATION ON FAZA OPERATIONS. THE PRESIDENT TOLD HIM THAT A MISSIONARY HAD FLOWN OVER THE SANDOA AREA AND SAW NO ACTIVITY THIS MORNING.

LOGISTICAL STATUS:

4. AIRCRAFT SPARES: MIRAGES APPEAR TO BE ADEQUATELY SUPPORTED. C-130 SPARES CRITICAL, NO SPARE TIRES OR BRAKES PLUS MANY OTHER ITEMS. MACCHI'S ARE BEING CANNIBALIZED TO SUPPORT THE FIVE THAT ARE BEING DEPLOYED.

MUNITIONS:

5. 14 LAU68A/A TYPE LAUNCHERS FOR MACCHIS AVAILABLE. CAPACITY 7/2.75 ROCKETS EACH.

MACCHI 2.75 ROCKETS, 488
100 POUND BOMBS, 180

NOTE: GENERAL BABIA INFORMED CZAMISH THAT AT MBANZA-
NGUNGU STORAGE SITE THERE ARE:

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100 POUND BOMBS, 1548
2.75 ROCKETS, 2140

MIRAGE 5160 30MM ROUNDS (250 ROUNDS PER AIRCRAFT/SORTIE)
20 SORTIES
NO OTHER MIRAGE MUNITIONS

6. TRAINING STATUS

MIRAGE 6 COMBAT READY PILOTS, AIR TO GROUND QUALIFIED
4 UNDERGOING TRAINING IN FRANCE

MACCHI 10 COMBAT READY PILOTS (COMBAT READY IN THAT THEY WERE
ONCE QUALIFIED, BUT HAVE HAD LITTLE OR NO RECENT
TRAINING).

BUFFALO 6 TRAINED CREWS

C-130 CRITICAL. ONLY FIVE AIRCRAFT COMMANDERS WHO ARE: THE
CHIEF OF STAFF, DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS,
BASE COMMANDER, AND SQUADRON COMMANDER. ONE IS ILL, AND THE
CHIEF OF STAFF IS CONTROLLING ALL FAZA OPS AND REPORTING
TO THE PRESIDENT ON AN HOURLY BASIS. OPERATIONS NOT EXPECTED
TO EXCEED THREE AIRCRAFT A DAY, BUT THE SAME PILOTS WILL BE FLYING.

7. AIR CRAFT STATUS:

14 MIRAGES, 8-9 FLYABLE (ESTIMATE) -- TWO ARE DAMAGED, THREE WERE IN HANGAR NOT BEING WORKED ON. OTHERS WERE FLYING LOCALLY OR DEPLOYING TO KAMINA.

5 MACCHIS OUT OF 14 BEING MADE FLYABLE.

4 OF FIVE C-130 FLYABLE. BRAVO IS DAMAGED.

1 BUFFALO IN HANGAR UNDERGOING MAINTENANCE, OTHER TWO DEPLOYED.

CESSNA 310S FLYING TRAINING MISSIONS.

8. POL STATUS AT LUBUMBASHI AND KOLWEZI: \$2 MILLION DOLLARS US OF POL PURCHASED AT NDOLA, ZAMBIA. BABIA STATES POL COMING UP BY ROAD. WILL ATTEMPT TO EXPLORE ENTIRE POL SITUATION AND PROVIDE INFORMATION SEPTEL.

WALKER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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